

# Gasconade County SWCD

July 2015

Visit us on the web at [www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade)

Volume 26, Issue 1

## Cost-Share Assistance Programs Are Available!

Applications are now being accepted by the Gasconade County Soil & Water Conservation District for soil erosion and water quality cost-share practices. Landowners who own 20 acres or more and have at least a minimum of \$1,000 in agricultural income are eligible to apply. All practices may receive up to 75% of the state average cost. There are five resource concerns that are available.

### Sheet/Rill & Gully Erosion:

- Pasture Establishment/Enhancement: These practices pay for a percentage of the state average cost for seed, seedbed prep, fertilizer, and lime. This land must meet sheet/rill erosion criteria.
- Water Impoundment Structures, Sediment Retention Structures, and Sod Waterways must meet gully erosion criteria. Ponds must not be built in the woodlands and livestock must benefit from the structure.
- Terraces, Diversions, and Critical Area Plantings must all meet either sheet/rill/or gully erosion factors.
- The new Cover Crop Practice. This practice is described in detail on page 4 of this newsletter.

**Grazing Management:** All operators must have attended a NRCS/UME certified grazing school. Cost-share is either limited to a dollar amount per acre or 75% of the state average cost, whichever is less.

- Water Development: either a well or pond structure, whichever is more cost effective. Limited to \$95 per serviced acre.
- Water Distribution: Pipelines and tanks. Limited to \$85 per serviced acre
- Cross Fencing: single wire hi-tensile, receiving up to \$60 per serviced acre
- Lime: one time application of lime allowed up to \$50 per serviced acre
- Legume overseeding: one time application of legumes up to \$40 per serviced acre.

**Woodland Protection:** Cost-share is available to fence livestock out of woodlands, streams, and ponds. No erosion criteria is required.

**Sensitive Areas:** These practices address water quality issues.

- Well Decommissioning: \$400 incentive payment to close old wells (this does not include Cisterns.)
- Streambank Protection, Streambank Erosion, Riparian Forest Buffer, and Field Borders address stream issues
- Spring Development is used to turn that valuable stream into a viable water source.

There is also funding available through NRCS and MDC. We can discuss with you the different options that are available, when we meet.

If you are interested in seeing if you qualify for any of these practices, please give us a call before you start something. These cost-share practices are funded through the 1/10th of 1% Parks and Soils sales tax. All technical and administrative services of the GCSWCD and NRCS are free to the public.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS



**We Need You**

**For Our Annual**

**4th Grade Field Days**

**October 7 & 8, 2015**

Call Diana at 573-437-3478 ext 3 Today!

### Board of Supervisors:

Dennis Berger - Chairman  
Michael Haeffner - Vice-Chairman  
Matthew Estes - Treasurer  
Debra Nowack - Member  
Matt Herring - Secretary

### District Staff:

Diana Mayfield - District Specialist II

### NRCS Staff:

Melinda Barch - District Conservationist  
Mark Brandt - Lead Resource Conservationist  
Braden Schmitz - Soil Conservationist  
Amy Neier - Soil Conservation Technician

### MDC STAFF:

Seth Barrioz - Private Lands Conservationist  
Scott Williams - Fisheries Biologist  
Aaron Holsapple - Forester





# 2nd Annual Women in Agriculture Meeting "Repurpose your Purpose" White Mule Winery

**August 27, 2015, 4 p.m.**

**Guest Speakers:** Steve Yates, Ralls County—Workshop on Container Gardening  
Carey Portell—"Stronger than Yesterday". Owensville native and compelling survivor of a drunk driving accident

**Activities:**

Local Vendors ★

Container Gardening Workshop ★

Winery & Bed and Breakfast Tour ★

Beef Brisket & Chicken Parmesan Dinner ★

Brought to you by the Osage, Maries and Gasconade (OMG) Counties' Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency and University of Missouri Extension.

Cost of the Event is \$10 pre-paid, per person, by **August 6, 2015** or \$15 at the door. For more information call Diana at 573-437-3478 x 3, Sandy at 573-422-3342, Angie at 573-897-2138 x 3 or Virginia at 573-437-2165. **Limited Seating is available.**

OMG-WIA Green Event T-Shirts are also available for \$15 each—pre-paid by August 6, 2015.

**Checks should be made out to the Maries County SWCD-WIA**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Additional \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee Names \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Maries County SWCD-WIA  
105 Parkway  
Vienna, MO 65582

**T-Shirt Orders**

Quantity	Size	Price Each	Subtotal
	S M L XL 2X 3X	15.00	
	S M L XL 2X 3X	15.00	
	S M L XL 2X 3X	15.00	
TOTAL T-SHIRT ORDER			
#ATTENDING	<input type="text"/>	X 10.00	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED			

DEADLINE  
AUGUST 6TH



## The Next Step In Successful Forage Production

By: Seth Barrioz, Missouri Department of Conservation Private Land Conservationist

Growing grass is nothing new to livestock producers. In fact, livestock producers are good at growing forages due to the care that they give to their ground and the ample rainfall, which we have no shortage of this spring. However, if we look at the fields there is always something more that can be done to improve them!

Native warm-season grasses are that next step to improving your haying or grazing needs. Cool-season grasses definitely have their place in a haying or grazing operation. However, if we want to boost hay production or boost livestock weight gains during the summer months then you should consider the idea of native grasses.

Many have heard there are issues with establishing native grasses such as long establishment periods and cost of seed. These are true in some instances; however, we have come a long way in understanding establishment processes to hopefully not have any establishment issues.

Now let's go through some of the benefits of native grasses.

Natives are more drought tolerant compared to our cool-season grasses. Remember in the summer of 2012 when all the pastures were burning up, there were still green forages still being produced by our native grasses. One of the reasons for a long establishment period (up to three years), is because the plants are growing deep root systems that run up to six feet deep depending on the limiting root layer.

Our natives provide better quality forage than fescue during the summer months. Native grasses that are grazed by 600lb stockers averaged 2.2—2.7 lb of daily gain on a Big Bluestem and Indiangrass mixture to the low-end of 1.1—1.7 lb of daily gain on Eastern Gamagrass. Tall fescue, on the other hand, averages less than 1lb of daily gain during the summer months.

Native grasses produce more biomass than cool-season forages. Native grasses typically range from 3.9-5 tons/ac on hay yields for 1 cutting. Tall Fescue hay production averages 3.1 tons/acre/year with 4 cuttings being taken in a year.

Low fertility requirements. Native grasses do not require high fertilizer input as they are adapted to our lower fertility soils and the deep root systems allow for nutrient uptake that other shallower rooted plants are unable to get. Fertilizer isn't getting any cheaper and our natives don't absolutely need continual top-dressing like fescue does. However, when used in a haying operation, applying 60 lbs of nitrogen per acre is acceptable or, in some cases, just 1 ton of lime can raise the pH and release more nutrients. Even during the establishment year, natives don't need fertilizer as it may encourage weedy growth that may out-compete the natives.

I could go on and on about the establishment of native grasses, but I know that you want to hear about actual producers reaction with the native grasses. One landowner in Osage County has had the same Big Bluestem field for the last 17 years and has never inter-seeded new plants. He utilizes prescribed fire every three years to stimulate growth and fertilizes it at 60lbs of nitrogen every year. He then hays it as close to July 15<sup>th</sup> as possible every year. He averages 3.5-5 tons per acre per year (89-109 1200# round bales on 13ac). When asked what he would do differently if he had to do it over again, his response was that he would have planted the native grass years before when he did.

Another landowner had his natives already established during the 2012 drought and never had a problem with his field burning up over the summer. When his neighbor's fields were brown and dead, his heifers were belly deep in lush green Eastern Gamagrass.

If you would like to know more about these grasses and their benefits to livestock or to wildlife, then you can contact Seth Barrioz, MDC Private Land Conservationist, at the Linn USDA Field Office (573) 897-3797 x116.



### 21st Annual State WIA Conference "Roaring Into Our Twenties" The Elms Hotel & Spa Excelsior Springs, MO September 21—23, 2015



**Touring:** Watkins Mill State Park, Platte-Clay Solar, Mule Barn U-Pick Berries, Buffalo Intensive Grazing

**Workshop Topics:** Smart Technology, Vacuum Canning, GMO's, Backyard Chickens, Internet Safety, Fiesty Farm Wife, Crop Insurance, Gardening with cover crops, rain Simulator/cover crops, and financial Planning

If you are interested, please contact the GCSWCD at 573-437-3478 x3 for a registration Form. Deadline is August 1st.



## New Cost-share Practice

We currently have funding for the new N-340 Cover Crops practice. The GCSWCD currently has \$4,800 to spend on this project. Cover crops are a great way to improve your soil health and to prevent sheet/rill erosion on your crop fields. They are also beneficial for wildlife.

The basics for this practice are:

- ◇ May be used in a production row crop field where a 2 species crop rotation is being utilized.
- ◇ No acreage limit at this time.
- ◇ A ranking process will be used for application.
- ◇ Can be seeded during the fall, winter, or spring.
- ◇ \$30 per/acre/year for 1-2 species.
- ◇ \$40 per/acre/year for 3 or more species
- ◇ Lifetime maximum of \$20,000 per OPERATOR.
- ◇ The crop may be grazed but not harvested.
- ◇ A mix consisting of 25% cool season grass must be used (cereal rye, Winter oats, winter triticale.....)

If you have a project that meets the criteria listed above, please give us a call at 573-437-3478 ext 3.

The Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District does not endorse nor recommend any of the vendors/contractors advertised in this newsletter, furthermore, any contractor/vendor that wishes to be added to the district's contractor/vendor list can be added upon request.



Kory Hubbard receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Board Chairman Dennis Berger for his years of service to the District and the landowners of Gasconade County.

May 20, 2012—July 8, 2015



## Help Wanted

The Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District has an immediate opening for a District Technician.

### Skills Required:

- High School Diploma or GED equivalent
- College, helpful but not necessary
- Office Work
  - ⇒ Computer Literacy
  - ⇒ Mapping Skills
  - ⇒ Attention to Detail
  - ⇒ Public Relations/Speaking
  - ⇒ Mechanical Skills
- Field Work
  - ⇒ Able to travel great distances by foot in all kinds of weather.
- Salary is based on experience with room for advancement
- Health insurance and retirement benefits available
- Paid holidays, sick leave, and vacation

Applications and position descriptions are available on line at [www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade/](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade/) or at the SWCD Office, 314 S Olive Street, Owensville. The closing date to receive applications is July 29th.

An Equal Opportunity Employer & Service Provider

## Tri-County Grazing School

The Gasconade/Maries/Osage Counties are sponsoring the Tri-County Grazing School on September 10th and 11th. This year's event will be held at the Owensville VFW Hall, 604 W. Jefferson Ave., Owensville, MO.

This course is a requirement to receive State Cost-share funds through the Grazing System Management Program. Through this program you could receive funding for:

**DSP-3.1, Water Source Establishment** Maximum of \$95 per serviced acre for well, and/or pond. Old ponds or wells may be brought up to specification, if it is the least cost alternative. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

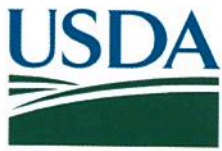
**DSP-3.2, Water Distribution** Maximum of \$85 per serviced acre for trenching, pipeline, and tanks. System may be new or if existing, the system must be intensified with new acres or increased paddocks. Serviced acre applies to the field that the watering tank(s) will be supporting. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DSP-3.3, Fencing** Maximum of \$60 per serviced acre. The cost is based on the least cost component, which is generally a one-wire high-tensile for deterrent (cross-fencing) only. Fence charger and installation equipment are included. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DSP-3.4, Lime** Maximum of \$50 per serviced acre. This is a one time application per field/per landowner. Operators are limited to 50 acres per year. Lime requirement is based on current soil test (less than 2 years old). Lime may not be applied if the acres are under a maintenance agreement for a DSL-1/DSL-2. Maintenance Agreement – 5 years.

**DSP-3.5, Seed** Maximum of \$40 per serviced acre. This is a one time application per field/per landowner. This practice covers seed and delivery of the seed. The seed is usually delivered through a dormant seeding and must be inoculated. Minimum fertility must be met at the landowners expense. If Lime is required, it must be delivered 6 months in advance of seed delivery. Maintenance Agreement – 5 years.

If you, or your operator, wish to attend, please contact the GCSWCD office at 573-437-3478 ext 3 for a registration form or go to our website at <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade/events.htm>. Space is limited, so do not delay.



# FSA Updates



## CROP REPORTING DEADLINES:

**2015** spring-seeded grains and CRP must be reported by **July 15, 2015**

**2016** hay and pasture acres must be reported by **November 15, 2015**

**2016** Fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by **December 15, 2015**

## Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) & Price Loss Coverage (PLC):

The ARC and PLC programs are financial safety net programs that replaced the DCP program. ARC/PLC payments come into effect when there are substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. Annual contract signing for 2014 and 2015 began on June 17, 2015, and will continue until September 30, 2015. Producers who do not sign an annual contract will lose possibility of a payment for that year. Producers who chose not to elect into a program were defaulted into the PLC program, and will still need to sign an annual contract in order to have the possibility of a payment for that year.

## FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL):

Eligible producers can obtain a low-interest loan for 7, 10 or 12 years to build or upgrade storage or handling facilities. This program includes grain bins and hay barns. **July Interest Rate: 2.00%** (Fixed for a 7 year term)

## FARM LOAN PROGRAMS:

Eligible farmers and ranchers may qualify for the low interest credit they need for annual operating expenses, for purchase or refinance of livestock and machinery and for purchase of real estate.

FSA currently has funding available for all Farm Loan Programs.

Producers are encouraged to contact the farm loan team serving their county to discuss their financing needs and possible options.

### July Interest Rates:

Direct Farm Ownership-3.75%

Direct Farm Operating-2.5%

Beginning Farmer Down Payment Farm Ownership-1.5%

## COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

The nomination period for FSA county committees began Sunday, June 15, 2015.

To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area where the person is nominated.

Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others. Organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A.

Nomination forms for the 2015 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 3, 2015. Elections will take place this fall.

## Earth Team Volunteer Program

The Natural Resources Conservation Service hosts the "Earth Team Volunteer Program" in cooperation with the Gasconade County Soil & Water Conservation District. This program invites people, ages 14 and above, to volunteer their time to actively participate in the day to day operations of the district as well as special events, such as our 4th Grade Field Days (October 7 & 8, 2015). There are different levels of participation available (some might need a security background check, others may only need to pass a test on information security, or nothing at all). Job shadowing opportunities for students are available as well as just wanting something different to do every now and then for those people who might be retired, in between jobs, or just need a day out of the house. The time spent could be very rewarding. Give us a call if you are interested, especially if you would like to help with the field days that are coming up.



# FREE FREE FREE PESTICIDE COLLECTION

FOR MISSOURI FARMERS and HOUSEHOLDS



**Saturday – August 15, 2015 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
Owensville City Police Department (near City Hall)  
109 North Second Street, Owensville, MO  
**See Map on Back**

- Pesticides
- Insecticides
- Fertilizers containing herbicides or pesticides

The following items will be accepted:

- Fungicides
- Herbicides

- Rodenticides
- Dewormers
- Fly Tags

**FOR MISSOURI RESIDENTS ONLY.** Pesticides from businesses, pesticide production facilities, pesticide distributors, pesticide retailers and the like will not be accepted. For questions contact: C.J. Plassmeyer, Missouri Department of Natural Resources at 573-751-0616 or visit: [www.dnr.mo.gov/environ/pesticide](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/environ/pesticide) for future collection sites and dates.



**MISSOURI**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

## How to Safely Transport Your Waste Pesticides

### Safety Precautions

- Wear nitrile or chemical resistant gloves when handling waste pesticides
- Do not smoke while handling or transporting pesticides
- Avoid bringing children or pets to the collection site

### Procedures

- Keep waste pesticides in original containers
- Do not mix unwanted pesticides with other materials like used motor oil or antifreeze
- Label materials that are not in original containers
- Make sure lids are tightly sealed
- If the container is leaking, place the container into a larger container with a nonflammable

absorbent, such as clay-based cat box filler, to absorb any possible leaks

- Secure waste pesticides upright in a cardboard box during transport
- Transport waste pesticides in the back of a pickup truck, trailer or car trunk
- Keep flammables out of direct sunlight and away from sources of heat

**The hazardous waste contractor will unload the waste pesticides from your vehicle at the collection event. Please stay in your vehicle until the contractor asks for your assistance.**

## Cost-share Policy Change

*Effective July 1, 2015, any cost-share applicant that is unable to complete their practice within the 90 day termination period (policy set 08/02/2011) must submit a request for an extension to the Board of Supervisors at the regularly scheduled Board Meeting prior to the termination date, either in writing or in person. The request must provide the following information:*

- ◆ How much of the project is complete?
- ◆ When do you feel you can complete the project?
- ◆ What has prevented you from completing the practice in the allotted time frame?

*The supervisors will review each request and decide whether to extend or terminate.*

## STAFF CHANGES

All good things must come to an end. That is the case for two of our staff members.

July 8th, District Technician II, Kory Hubbard, left the District to work for the Solid



Waste Management Division of DNR. He was a wonderful asset to the District and we wish him well in his new position.

With the Field Office Service Area (FOSA) changes, we find that some rearranging is being done by NRCS. As of August 20th, our Soil Conservationist Braden Schmitz will be transferring to the Monroe County Field Office. Good Luck, Braden!



And, welcome back Mark Brandt as our new NRCS Lead Resource Conservationist.





## **Gasconade County SWCD**

314 Olive Street  
Owensville, MO 65066  
(573) 437-3478 ext. 3  
FAX: 855-842-7890

STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Owensville, MO  
Permit No. 8

## **2015 Dates to Remember**

<b>August 4</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>August 27</b>	OMG-WIA Event, Page 2
<b>September 1</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>September 7</b>	Labor Day Holiday, Office Closed
<b>September 10-11</b>	Tri-County Grazing School, Page 5
<b>September 21-23</b>	State Women in Ag Conference, Page 3
<b>September 24-25</b>	Wurdack Grazing School
<b>October 6</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>October 7-8</b>	4th Grade Field Days, Kurrelmeyer Farm
<b>October 12</b>	Columbus Day Holiday, Office Closed
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>November 11</b>	Veteran's Day Holiday, Office Closed
<b>November 26</b>	Thanksgiving Day Holiday, Office Closed
<b>Nov 30-Dec 3</b>	Annual Training Conference, Staff out of Office
<b>December 8</b>	<b>Board Mtg, TBA, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>December 25</b>	Christmas Day Holiday, Office closed
<b>January 1, 2016</b>	New Year's Day Holiday, Office closed
<b>January 5</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>January 18</b>	Martin Luther King Holiday, Office Closed

### **Gasconade County SWCD Equipment**

**LEASE AGREEMENT MUST BE ON FILE AT THE  
SWCD OFFICE BEFORE EQUIPMENT CAN BE  
RENTED.**

**Drill charge: Minimum charge of \$100.00 for less than 10 acres usage. An additional \$10.00 will be charged for each additional acre under 50 acres. There will be an \$9.00 per acre charge for 50 acres or more.**

For Scheduling of equipment, please call the SWCD office at 573-437-3478 ext 3, unless otherwise indicated.

◇ John Deere 10 ft no-till drill is located at James Miller, Second Creek Farms, 2828 Hwy 19 Owensville. Call 573-529-2507 to schedule.

◇ Great Plains 7 ft no-till drill with warm season box is located at the SWCD office.

**Vehicle insurance cards must be presented!**

**Located at the SWCD Office:**

- ◇ Rotowiper - \$25 a day
- ◇ Burn Equipment - \$50 deposit, \$10 use charge
- ◇ ATV Equipment (Seeder, Sprayer, Disk) - \$100 deposit, \$20 a day each piece or \$50 for all three
- ◇ ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder—no charge—Donated by Quail Unlimited
- ◇ Soil Probe - no charge